

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claim 4 is added, the specification is amended, claims 2 and 3 are amended, and claim 1 is canceled. No new matter is added. Claims 2-4 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. Specification Objection

The Office Action objects to the specification because of informalities. The specification is amended to include consistent terminology. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Office Action indicates that claims 1-3 include allowable subject matter.

The features of canceled claim 1 are incorporated into new claim 4. Claims 2 and 3 are amended to depend from claim 4. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4 are allowable in view of their compliance with 35 U.S.C. §112, discussed below.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as indefinite. The rejection is moot with respect to canceled claim 1. However, new claim 4 incorporates the features of canceled claim 1 and includes revisions to provide proper antecedent basis and clarity. All of the issues raised by the Office Action are addressed by the amendments to the claims, without narrowing the claims. Several are discussed as follows.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "meshing of its rack." Claim 4 clarifies that a rack of the carriage meshes with a set of teeth of a driving pinion.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "the free end of the carriage." Claim 4 clarifies that a free end of the carriage is opposite the rack.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "free to rotate in the cage and meshing." Claim 4 clarifies that the at least two superposed planet pinions are free to rotate in the cage, an upper one of the planet pinions meshes with a set of teeth formed around the intermediate axial shaft, and a lower one of the planet pinions meshes with an output sun gear.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "first train." Claim 4 clarifies that a first train includes a cage mounted so that the cage can rotate about the intermediate shaft, including a crown wheel that meshes with a pinion fitted onto the shaft of an electric motor carried by the body, and carrying at least two superposed planet pinions mounted so that the at least two superposed planet pinions are free to rotate in the cage, an upper one of the planet pinions meshes with a set of teeth formed around the intermediate axial shaft, and a lower one of the planet pinions meshes with an output sun gear.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "the upper planet pinion of at least one set of superposed planet pinions." Claim 4 clarifies that the sun gear meshes with an upper planet pinion of at least one set of superposed planet pinions.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "a continuation of the body." Claim 4 clarifies that the at least one set of superposed planet pinions are free to rotate in the body.

The Office Action asserts that it is unclear what is being claimed by "is distinct from the set of teeth that collaborates with the rack of this carriage." Claim 4 clarifies that the set of teeth formed on the driving pinion of the carriage is distinct from the set of teeth of the driving pinion that meshes with the rack of the carriage.

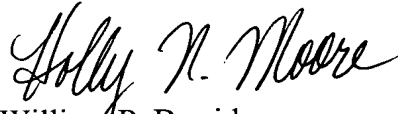
Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-4 are definite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 2-4 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



William P. Berridge
Registration No. 30,024

Holly N. Moore
Registration No. 50,212

WPB:HNM/tbh

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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